

Nation

CLASSIFIEDS

100-BIRTHS

Birthday hugs and kisses going out to Our Dear Father, who was born on December 25, 0000. Praise you. From all your children in the universe.

101-BIRTHDAYS

Blessed be ye, o Na-
tion. May the
Lords blessing
with you. Keep
good work.
Happy 5th birth-
Don't forget to p
Lots. From His Ho-
ness, the Holy See.

Happy belated 12th
birthday to my son
Eric on November 27.
I'm really glad to have
you with me. From
your dad, Will.

Wishing a happy b-
day to my one and
only dog. Ever since
you came into our life
you have made it more
complete. Arf, arf, arf.
From your b*tch, Jazz.

Happy B-day, mom!
From A&R in MTL. xox!

102-WEDDINGS

Congratulations to
Carmen Electra and
Dennis Rodman who

just got married on
November ??, 1998.
Wishing you guys all
the happiness and joy
your love can bring.

From all your fans
James Bay. P
men, the
wed

200-FOR SALE

Looking for a buyer for
Cree lands. Lots and
water. Call me to
older.

300-PERSONALS

Looking for penpals
(or just Pals). I have
green skin with anten-
nae growing out of a
bulbous head. Three
long skinny fingers on
each hand with no op-
posing thumb. I have,

unfortunately, no
penitalia. I also have
freaky black-as-
eyes that never
Hobbies include
g around the
area amaz-
Crees with
freaky light

appearing
ducting
hill-
iso-
be-

in their
is would be-
them anyway. I

have been known to
crash land in out of
way places like
Roswell, New Mexico.
Most recently in 1947.
Ooops.

Looking for a good
deal on pepper spary.
Contact "JC," 24 Sus-
sex Drive, Ottawa,
Ont.

We wanna wish a Happy
5th Birthday to The Na-
tion on December 1st,
1998. And many more is-
sues to come. We love
you. P.S. Do party too
much. Ooooo yeah! You're
a hunka-hunka burnin'
love. From: your secret
admirers. xoxox.

300-LOST

Lost: One and
Last spotted in
north of W
goostui as a
fireball. Co
NASA, Washington,
DC. 10101. No ques-
tions asked. Reward
offered: night-time
visit from friendly
cloak-clad man.

and
more and
illiterate
hillbillies on
their isolated farms
just because nobody
in their right minds
would believe them
anyway. I have been
known to crash land in
out of way places like

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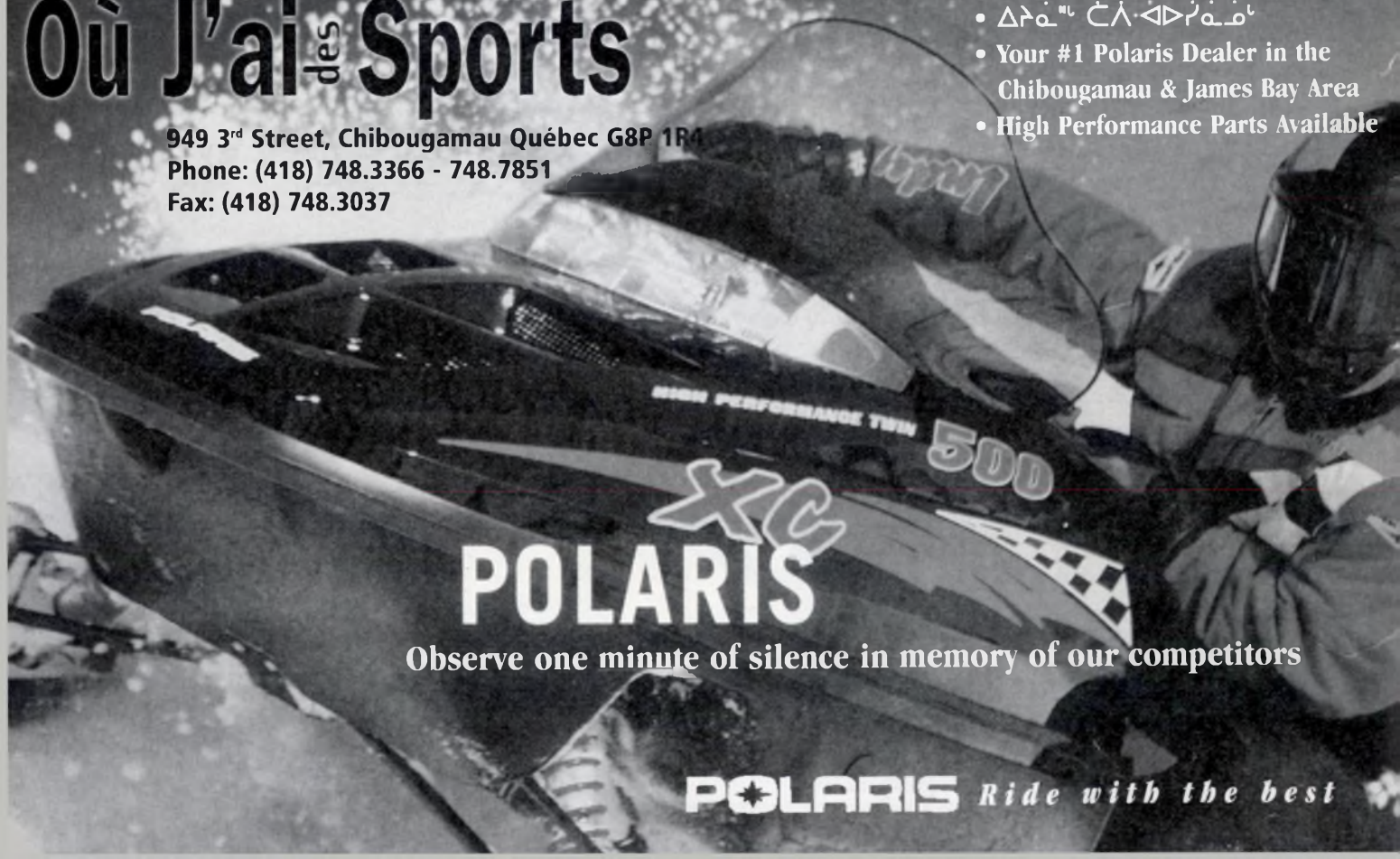


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Welcome to Volume 6, #1. This is the beginning of our 6th year of publishing The Nation Magazine. Our first one was Volume 1 #1. Does it feel like five years has passed? It is hard to believe that it has. It feels like yesterday. I remember vividly our first issues. Burned in my memory is the first Nationites' gathering in our living room to start a paper for the Crees of James Bay. After it got too hectic at our first "office," we found a location which we could work from. Ah, the naivete. I had no idea how to run a paper. All of us involved brought various skills and talents to the project. All I knew was that the Crees needed one.

As I've said before (violins in the background) I know that communications within the communities is very effective. Communications include the traditional means of transmission, which is talking to people. Vast distances warranted the shaking tent. Lately, radio and television have come on the scene. I have worked in various aspects in Cree communications with emphasis in radio both on a community and regional level. So I know what it takes to produce a radio show both as an announcer and researcher. Next time you see someone who is working in radio or television, let them know of your appreciation of their services.

To complement the radio and tv services, a magazine is needed to bring stories which are a bit more difficult to bring across the airwaves. Many people have contributed to The Nation. For that, we thank you. Your contributions are important for us to continue the work that needs to be done. A story, a legend, a poem, a birthday wish to a special someone, a final good bye to a loved one. Those all are important contributions. Our work is to bring your voice to the people who need it, ourselves.

We put a lot of pride into the effort that we made on the magazine. We hope it shows through. Just to be sure, tell our advertisers where you saw their ad (end violins). We have gone through four offices, two break ins, little or no pay, crazy deadlines, crazier characters. We have seen people who hate the paper and who love the paper; we don't know who's scarier. We have seen our share of ups and downs as a business, like any other business endeavour does.

So from all of us at Beesum Communications, publishers of The Nation Magazine, here's to another five years. When that time comes we can say... "Here's to another 10 years." Till then, we'll keep our fingers crossed.

by Ernest Webb

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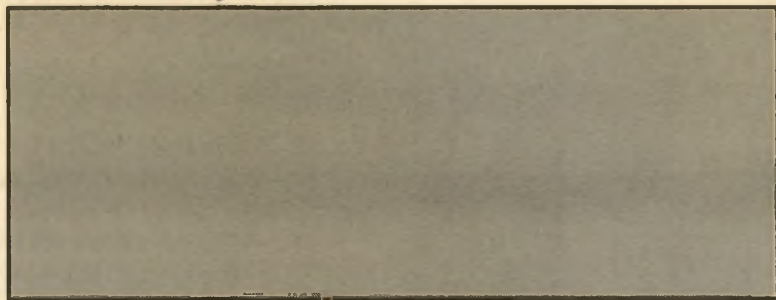
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ON THE COVER
Happy B-Day to us!!!
Photos: Neil Diamond
Design: Sylvia Tannisco



The voices and applause of 18,000 fans rose as the the lights dimmed and the band made its way to the revolving stage at centre ice. An announcer's voice boomed across the arena, "Ladies... and... Gentlemen... The Molson Centre is proud to present... NEEEEIIILL DIIIAAAMMONDDDD!!!!!"

There I was, arms raised in triumph. Then I caught myself and quickly regained composure. For a brief shining moment I had caught an inkling of what it must be like for people who live in the public eye and have people screaming their name whenever they appear.

I normally wouldn't have gone to a Neil Diamond concert. My tastes in music lean more towards anything between old country music for its drinkin' and hurtin' songs to really heavy, almost ugly music you can only enjoy at high volume in a crowded club with people bumping into each other and spilling drinks. There is some Rap music I can take, but as a friend of mine jokes to his kids, "Rap is for non-singers."

So what brought me here at the 20th row in front of centre at the Molson Centre surrounded by a lot of bald heads was a lifetime of bad, repetitive jokes about the name I was given.


I don't know how many times I have heard, usually in public, "Neil, sing us a song!" or, "Do you sing?" One guy, an acquaintance, had only one line which he'd deliver with a huge smile almost everytime I'd see him, "Kentucky Woman." I don't know if it was his favourite Neil Diamond song but after more than 50 of those you start to feel weird. One cousin will just look at me and in his most sarcastic of voices say, "Money talks." One woman asked me to autograph an album I am sure she went out of her way and bought just for that purpose.

Sometimes you meet real fans who

know the whole Diamond album catalogue, most of the song lyrics and have seen at least a dozen times Scorsese's *The Last Waltz* and *The Jazz Singer*. The real fanatics follow the tour from city to city and have come to be called Diamondheads. After all the teasing from non-fans who knows what I'd get from those ones. It's scary to think about so I won't even go there.

My most ridiculous experience was at the beginning of the school year with a new teacher. She asked everyone their names. With a completely straight face honed through many years of embarrassing scenes like this, I told her my name. Her expression said it all. I was going to be this year's class troublemaker and wise ass, and she ignored my smart answer. She moved on to another student. My friend Elvis from Eastmain. Elvis couldn't resist. He just answered her "Elvis," and left out his last name. I guess she wasn't going to tolerate two troublemakers in her class this early in the year and sent us to the principal's office for a tongue lashing. Eventually the confusion was cleared up, and The King and I were exonerated. Needless to say she was right about us in the end and we both went on to be just the troublemakers and wise asses she feared we'd be. Now I get paid for it. I'm just waiting for the big bucks. Patiently.

There was another incident similar to that one. Picture this. I'm in jail at four o'clock in the morning and there's an Indian guy locked up in the cell beside me. We get around to talking and he asks me my name. He sort of chuckled when I answered. So I asked him what his name was. "Jim Morrison," he said. Our laughter rang through the metal bars. The jailer must have thought we were crazy.

By the way, the show was pretty good and was worth the twenty bucks. 

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Nation



OUJES VOTES TO REHOLD ELECTION FOR CHIEF

Ouje-Bougoumou has put an end to several weeks of debate about last summer's election for chief by deciding to hold a re-election.

Residents voted for a new election by a 101-52 margin at a recent community assembly. A date wasn't chosen as of press time. The decision put to rest the turbulence of the past six months since Louise Wapachee was elected chief last summer.

The problems for Wapachee started even before the vote. For some residents, it was simply the fact that they didn't want a female chief.

Others complained that Wapachee should have resigned from her position as the band's treasurer when she ran for chief. They pointed to an election bylaw which they said prohibits a chief candidate from staying on as treasurer or secretary to prevent conflict-of-interest.

The Cree-Naskapi Commission was called in to investigate. After an investigation, it concluded that there may have been errors, but the bylaw is ambiguous and there was no solid basis to contest the election. The commission recommended the community deal with the issue internally.

But one unsuccessful candidate for chief, Joseph Shecapio-Blacksmith, wasn't happy and threatened to take the issue to court. Also, an Elder, Robert Bosum, had come forward to say the returning officer told him who to vote for. That's when the community agreed to hold a re-election.

Wapachee also rubbed a few people the wrong way when she proposed cuts to the payments the former chief and councilors had decided to give themselves as "recognition

awards."

The payments totalled several hundred thousand dollars. For example, Joseph Shecapio-Blacksmith, a member of the old council, got \$25,000. Abel Bosum, former chief, got \$120,000, on top of one year's pay as a severance bonus.

Wapachee apparently considered the amounts to be too rich for the small community of about 600 people, and she proposed to cut the amounts in half.

Since the recognition payments had been approved at a community assembly, Wapachee suggested holding another assembly to change the amounts.

After the inevitable outcry, the payments were never cut. But a few community members were bent out of shape.

It also didn't help matters when whispering started over Wapachee hiring a family member as the band's director-general. Soon, she was also being accused of nepotism. Still more controversy erupted when Wapachee decided not to take Abel Bosum up on his request to stay on as a consultant to the band.

Wapachee was away from the office for several days and couldn't be reached.

For Joseph Shecapio-Blacksmith, the main issue is the election itself, especially Wapachee staying on as treasurer. "We cannot continue to ignore our laws whenever we feel like it," he said.

But Abel Bosum gave a long list of concerns that he said are bothering residents. "It's pretty unfortunate it turned out this way. There were some changes that came a little too fast for people, and I think that's part of the reason for what's happening."

HYDRO RESERVOIR LEVELS FALL TO RECORD LOWS

Hydro-Quebec is facing more bad news about the low level of water in its reservoirs in James Bay.

By this spring, the reservoirs will be only 16-per-cent full, according to a report last week by Michel Morin, a journalist at French CBC TV.

The water levels are so low Hydro may have to import power "massively" from the U.S. and other provinces next year, and break its promise not to increase electricity rates, Morin reported.

The problems may also impact on Hydro revenues and the Quebec government's zero-deficit objectives.

No word on whether Hydro plans to slow down its plan to dramatically expand electricity exports to the U.S. If the exports continue, Hydro will be in the bizarre situation of selling power to the U.S. and buying it back at a higher price, at a time when energy reserves are at record lows in Quebec.

At the moment, the reservoirs are filled to 45 per cent of their capacity, according to Morin's report. That's low compared to four years ago, when they were at 70 per cent of their capacity in November 1994.

Not since 1989 have the reservoir levels been so low at the beginning of the winter. In Nov. 1994, Hydro had the equivalent of 117 terawatt-hours (TWh) of energy reserves. Now, it has 77 TWh. About 50 TWh are needed for Quebec to get through the winter, when energy use is high.

But in the past, Morin reported, Hydro-Quebec has always tried to keep, on top of a winter reserve of 50 TWh, an additional reserve of 64 TWh in its reservoirs. This "security" reserve was kept in case very little rain falls for two years running.

In another development, Hydro-Quebec has pulled the plug on cut-rate power deals that have cost the utility \$1.5 billion in lost revenues since the early 1990s. It announced last week that it won't sign any more of the deals with aluminum makers, in which power was sold at well below industrial rates.

BY ALEX ROSLIN



Bring our people home

Letter to *The Nation*.

I am writing this letter hoping that someone out there in Eeyou Estchee would come to our aid. The reason being:

In August 1994, I was diagnosed with kidney malfunction. Since then my disease has worsened. In April 1998, I was transferred to Val d'Or, Quebec, in order to receive treatment because the Chibougamau Hospital isn't equipped with a hemo-dialysis machine.

Since April 1998, I have had to receive weekly treatment on the hemo-dialysis machine three times a week. During these times I am plugged into this machine for four hours in order to stay alive.

I have now been here for eight months living in a foster home for patients. During these months I have encountered several problems, such as loneliness for my family. I am married with four children and nine grandchildren. I rarely see my loved ones because I cannot miss any of my treatments. It's a matter of life and death.

Although my husband is employed, it

becomes very costly for him to travel back and forth to Val d'Or to visit me and we have a lot of telephone expenses. I feel I am missing out a lot of precious time, time I can be spending with my family and my grandchildren. I long to hold and see my grandchildren, and watch them grow up. Unfortunately, I can't and even when I do go home I can only stay for two days. Then I have to return to Val d'Or to receive my treatment on the hemo-dialysis machine. The travelling I do when I go to visit is very tiring especially in my condition. My condition has also made it very depressing for myself and for my family as it is a very difficult health condition to cope with.

I have heard there might be a hemo-dialysis machine either in Mistissini or Chibougamau, but this is only hearsay. I have not heard anything since then. If someone out there has heard anything about the dialysis machine being in Mistissini or Chibougamau, please, please let me know.

If the problem is a financial set-back, I feel it's time we pulled together as Eeyou

Estchee and find ways of helping financially in order for this kidney machine to be closer to home. I am positive there are other people out there, especially in the surrounding communities of Waswanipi, Ouje-Bougoumou, Chibougamau, Mistissini and Nemaska, who will benefit if this treatment is made available in our area. More and more of our people are diagnosed with kidney malfunctions. Some of them are even in Mistissini. Let's bring our people home.

I am writing this letter on behalf of myself and my friend Jane Alice Shecapio-Matoush, who has now lived in Val d'Or for about eight years. She is a widow and has five children and six grandchildren. It has been a very long and tough struggle for her, always longing for her family, and only with her great hope has she managed to hang on. It is also very difficult for her children as they need their mother to deal with today's life stresses and, because of this, she feels very helpless like a bird with a broken wing, at times making her feel depressed which

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Elder passes on

From a message by Chief Kenneth Gilpin of Eastmain:

On behalf of the members of the Cree Nation of Eastmain, I wish to inform all the Cree communities together with the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee) of the passing away of one of the most respected and beloved Elders of the Cree Nation of Eastmain, Charlie Mayappo, on November 15, 1998, at 12:50 a.m.

Charlie Mayappo contributed in an outstanding manner to the well-being of our community. He was one of the most committed trappers and hunters. His love and his guardianship of the land were a constant reminder to our people and particularly the youth of the most cherished value of the Cree Nation: our way of life.

Charlie Mayappo was a pillar of our society and his constant participation helped us build our administration and our community. We will miss his wisdom, his knowledge of the land, of our traditions, of our values. This is a great loss for our community.

Charlie Mayappo is survived by his wife Ellen (Mark), his sister Mary Mayappo-Weapenicappo, three sons, Roderick, Lloyd and Gordon and daughter Rita (Mayappo-Gilpin). He had 21 grandchildren and 25 great-grandchildren. We ask everyone to join us in our prayers from Charlie Mayappo and his family. May he rest in peace having joined his beloved God for eternity.

CREE UNITY EMERGES OVER EM-1 PROJECT

Cree chiefs and community representatives to the Council/Board came together in Val d'Or on November 24 to talk about Hydro-Quebec's co-ownership proposal for a dam on the Eastmain River.

They decided no individual Cree community could say yes; this has to be done by all the Crees. Also, the Grand Council of the Crees will be involved in the decision, they decided. This seemed to be turnaround from previous reports that the Grand Council would be shut out.

"There's nothing good about EM-1," said Grand Chief Matthew Coon Come. "It's a new project and Crees at the moment have no mandate to discuss new projects."

Coon Come said Crees still have to develop a response to HQ's proposals. "We will prepare, analyze, scrutinize and whatever-ize we have to do," he said. Coon Come said community consultations would play a part in determining the Cree stance.

Mistissini Chief Kenny Loon agreed, saying the best route would be a community referendum, which he noted require 60 per cent of the eligible voters participating for it to be binding.

Hydro is proposing to build a dam on the Eastmain River and divert the Rupert. The project would cost \$2.2 to \$3 billion. Hydro has proposed that Crees invest their own money for a cut of the action.

Coon Come said the Council/Board is at the stage of gathering information and telling people of "Hydro-Quebec's madness and their obsession with building dams." He said the next step is community consultations, creating a land-use plan, getting informa-

tion to analyze the project, looking at the impact and involving the trappers, among other things.

"We gave permission to Hydro to proceed and make presentations to the communities. We, at the Grand Council, will not act as promoters or try to explain Hydro's projects. It's up to Hydro to do that," said Coon Come.

Coon Come said the Grand Council feels Crees should at least be allowed to hear what HQ wants to do in the Cree territory. "But I want to make it clear as Grand Chief that we do not have a mandate to consider new projects."

While there is a regional Cree task force meeting with Hydro-Quebec, Mistissini has created its own. They have been looking at HQ's plans, too. Mistissini's task force has determined that there would be three groups that would have the final say on the project. These are the affected tallymen, the families of the affected tallymen and others who occasionally hunt on the impacted traplines.

Loon admits there was a concern that the impacted groups could be pressured by those who want the project. But Loon said Mistissini will allow them to make up their own minds. Loon promised that the Mistissini band will never negotiate without a mandate from the people.

"I think people are afraid sometimes. They think the chief and council are already negotiating. We won't do that."

It looks to be a long process, but this doesn't bother Coon Come. "We are in no hurry. We have no timetable. It's our duty to get the information for the people and trappers."

by William Nicholls

Ted Moses wins UN award

Ted Moses was honoured with an award created to mark the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and Freedoms of North America.

Moses, who is the Cree Ambassador to the United Nations and a former grand chief of the Cree Nation, was given the Human Rights and Freedoms Award in his native Eastmain on November 12.

Jennifer Stodart, vice-president of the Quebec Human Rights Commission, and another official from the commission were on hand to present the award.

One individual was chosen in each of Quebec's 17 regions for the award. Moses was the award winner for the Cree region of Northern Quebec, and was selected by a jury panel that consisted of James Bobbish,

continued on page 9

MEMO

MEMO

To: all students and teachers

From: The Cree School Board/The Nation

Subject: The 5th Annual Student Essay Contest

This memo is to remind you to start writing your essays. Your deadline is December 7, 1998. Topics include: personal experiences, sports, social and political issues, elders, community member profile, legends, Cree future, Cree culture and values, changes in the community, education, learning in the bush, Cree in the work place and Cree as a language of instruction.

You must be in a CSB program. Age is no factor. You may enter your essay in Cree, English or French.

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Good luck

continued from page 7

executive director of the Cree Health Board, and Abel Bosum, former chief of Ouje-Bougoumou. A provincial winner will be chosen from among the regional awardees on December 10 by Quebec Human Rights Commission president Claude Filon.

Moses gave a short but appreciative speech with his family by his side. He adds the recognition to his receiving an honorary Doctor of Laws degree in 1996 from the University of Saskatchewan.

(Source: an article by Dave Herman-Auger in Waaskimaashtau.)

Kahnawake calls in Cree beaver busters

Kahnawake's problem with flooding due to beaver dams is not a new one but seems to be worsening every year. Destroying the dams and lodges of beavers with explosives, the previous choice of elimination, proved to be irritatingly ineffective.

The major problem we are faced with is power outages, occurring when flooding takes down large trees, which in turn pulls down the power lines leaving parts of our community in the dark.

Help came in the form of Bobby Patton, a

Kahnawake Native living in Waskaganish, Quebec, near James Bay, who got in touch with the Kahnawake Conservation Officers to ask permission for him and his friends to trap beaver on this territory.

After hearing of our little beaver problem, Patton and Co. (Alan MacLeod, Alan Diamond and Clarence Cowboy) hastened to make the 12-hour journey to Kahnawake from Waskaganish.

These men were so excited to come to Kahnawake because of the idea of trapping beavers so close to a city that they financed their own trip.

After two days the foursome trapped 45 beavers, covering only 30 to 40 per cent of the territory. In exchange for their services,

the men asked only that they be allowed to keep the meat and pelts from the beavers they caught. Sadly, of all the beavers caught, only a small percentage were suitable to eat because the water was so polluted in places that some of the meat was full of toxins.

To see these guys in action skinning a beaver is something else. The entire process requires nothing but a knife and a piece of bear bone. A whole beaver is skinned in a matter of minutes. The men also took

home a deer which had been bumped on one of our highways and picked up by the PKs. Skinned, quartered and frozen in the blink of an eye, the men brought it back home to Waskaganish for everyone to enjoy. Hopefully, they'll be back again next year to help with "our little beaver problem."

BY GREG HORN
(reprinted from The Eastern Door of Kahnawake)

GREG HORN (THE EASTERN DOOR)



Cree trappers feast on beaver ribs, deer meat and duck in Kahnawake.



Appeal from Nicaragua

We are receiving reports of Aboriginal people experiencing starvation due to the devastating hurricane that hit Central America. The storm caused the worst flood in memory for the Aboriginal people along the Coco River on the Atlantic coast of Nicaragua.

These communities are very isolated and are lacking food. They will likely not receive aid without outside help. Food, medicine, clothing and material for shelter are the highest priorities right now. The emergency will probably remain for several months. The Atlantic Commission for the Emergency is prepared to receive any help and are coordinating with the Nicaraguan government to fly supplies to the affected people.

For more information, please call Simon Brascoupé at (613) 730-7059 or fax: (613) 730-5621.



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A blast from the past, James Bay style

BY WILLIAM NICHOLLS

James Cheechoo, a Cree from Moose Factory, has just released his first music CD at 68. Cheechoo is of the old school, a self-taught fiddler who's has been performing for the last 55 years, longer than most people have been married though he's certainly played more than one wedding. He is one of the last fiddlers to remember the "old style" playing before guitars were introduced as back up for the fiddle.

Cheechoo said his father remembered going about 40 miles out in the "Bay" to Charleton Island. "There was a depot for the HBC there," said Cheechoo. He said his father told him a lot of Crees would go there during the summer to watch the "three-masters" coming in. According to Cheechoo, it took about 14 days to unload the three-mast ships. "Scotsmen and Irishmen would come in the ships and they would be playing music all the way in to the warehouse," said Cheechoo, remembering his father's stories.

"They had a lot of fun dancing and playing the music. Some of these songs on this CD are from this time," said Cheechoo. Indeed, the name of the CD, *Shay Chee Man*, refers to those who came in on the ships to Canada "to bring those tunes to us," said Cheechoo.

The Nation: So you've just put out your first album and you're 68, what took you so long?

James Cheechoo: Sometimes I was thinking to do that but I didn't have the money. That's what it was. I began to think I could get a grant from the government. I did that. It came through. That was a great help. I used some of my money too. I got some money from SOCAM (Canada Council) and FACTOR (Heritage Canada).



James Cheechoo, Cree fiddler of the old school.

You're from the Moose Factory people?

Yes, but when I speak Cree I speak the Cree language of Eastmain. That's where I was born. My father worked over there until he got his old age pension and moved back to Moose Factory. I moved back with him in 1960.

I see you're a self-taught fiddler. Do you read music?

I don't read the notes of music. I just learned where I heard the music. I hear music and I can play it.

This album has 10 songs. These are all traditional dances?

Yes, I do these things. These are history songs, very old songs. Nobody plays them now. They only want to play the new music. Everybody wants to play the new music.

I brought these up because I heard some Indian people saying they want to bring up

something that's old so young people can see and hear it.

The Indians, what they were using a long time ago, they were dancing. I remember back in 1944, the first time that I was playing the fiddle in square dancing, it would start at 8 in the evening and finish at 5:30 or 6 in the morning. That's how long they used to dance. Of course they used to rest for about 15 minutes and they dance again. Other people used to play fiddle like I did.

So you're looking at this album as a way of preserving Cree history for the youth and future generations?

Yes.

Are you teaching anyone the fiddle?

No, I never taught anyone. I just want to pass on the fiddle so people can hear it. The new fiddlers can give it a try if they want to carry on the old-time fiddle music. I know some places they have never

heard this type of fiddle music. Especially at Chisasibi, I went in there last summer and they said there's some rabbit dancing in that music. They didn't know how the rabbit dance went.

The rabbit dance has two lines. One's a ladies line and the other is the men's line. One partner has to chase his partner around these lines until he catches her. That's how the rabbit dance goes. Then it's the next couple and the next after that until all is finished. Sometimes the ladies take a little while to be caught. They run around the people who are sitting watching. It's a lot of fun.

Also there's a kissing dance. The kissing dance used to be the very last dance they would have at these dances. It was to say goodbye to people. They use a kerchief. It can be a lady or a man who starts first. If it's a man he dances around in a circle, he may have an eye on somebody. He goes and kisses the lady wherever they are sitting. He gives her the kerchief. She dances around and kisses a man. They dance

around in a circle following each other until the last lady. She goes up and kisses the fiddler. He goes with his fiddle into the center of the circle. Everyone's still going around and they all join hands now because the fiddler has been kissed. The fiddlers in the center of the ring. He chooses what lady he's going to kiss. He goes outside the circle and the lady goes to the middle. She kisses someone else and leaves the circle to sit down. The circle gets smaller as this goes on until there's only two left. That's



the kissing dance. That's how that works. It finishes up the party.

All the songs on the CD have their own dances. That's how it was a long time ago. Not like today, today the people are dancing around. Some of them dance like they don't know what they are doing. That's how it is today. A long time ago they were not doing that.

On the CD there's Kwisiekan #1 and #2. Those are step dances in order. This summer I was in Mistissini. We had a wedding dance there. I was playing the fiddle and I played Kwisiekan #1. Some old men and women came and they were dressed like the old days. There were six of them. They had partners too and they danced both #1 and #2 in order. Three on one side of the floor and three on the other side of the floor. They were step-dancing and the women went around the circle again. The men were going in a figure 8 inside the circle. The step dance was like a long time ago. A long time ago I never saw anyone dancing by themselves like today they do that.

All the songs had their own dances. I put the names of the songs on the CD like they used to call them in Cree a long time ago. I'm thinking of making another CD sometime in the new year. Maybe another

one.

You're thinking of another CD?

Yes, I can put in another five old traditional and five modern songs. I'd like to have people hear them. To hear what was going on a long time ago. This is so they cannot forget this music. That's very old. I can bring the skin drum too.

A long time ago there was no guitar. There was only the skin drum that was used. It was good. It was like a guitar sound with almost bass. It sounds real good. I remember

hearing the sound from my house a long time ago when I would go outside and I could hear the dance going even though it was quite a ways away. That's how loud it was and it was good.

I noticed you have your wife playing on this CD too.

Yeah, my wife is playing the spoons. She has played with me a long time when she feels like it. She plays very good. She's got some wooden spoons from her sister. They're attached together. That's how they are, those spoons.

If people want to pick up CD, how do they get it?

I sent them to different places. I sent them to the small stores. I phoned them and asked if they want those CD's. I'm planning to make cassettes. I know people have cassettes in their cars and they want cassettes. Many people just have cassette machines. They've asked for cassettes so I'm ordering them now. I will let them know once we have cassettes

CD: Shay Chee Man
Artist: James Cheechoo
Music Style: Traditional James Bay Fiddle
Kwishiekan Productions, 1998



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Cree ranks 27th in world



BY WILLIAM NICHOLLS

It's been a very busy successful racing season for Cree moto-cross sensation Nathaniel Bosum, a youth. Bosum, a youth from Ouje-Bougoumou, was the 27th ranking racer in the 50cc class at this past summer's World Amateurs National. Only 42 racers qualified in North America. There were 1,500 racers from all over the world. The other four races that Bosum participated in in the U.S. were qualifying races for the Amateurs National. Bosum qualified for the 50cc class but didn't make it for the 60cc class.

"That race was where you have the top riders from all classes," said Abel Bosum, Nathaniel's father. He said the competition was fierce. "Nathaniel made friends wherever he raced in Canada but in the States it's serious."

Neither of the Bosums had a chance to see country singer Loretta Lynn during the race, but they went on a tour of her ranch in Tennessee and the Loretta Lynn museum.

"Apparently she's a farmer, was married to a farmer, and I think moto-cross started with all these farmer boys competing outdoors," said Bosum, talking about the connection between Lynn and moto-cross.

Bosum also mentioned that the Canadian National Moto-Cross Association has decided that Ouje-Bougoumou will host a national race next June. This is one of the two in Quebec and one of the nine held in Canada each year. Bosum attributes this to the quality of organization they have in O.J. and the overwhelming response from all the racers. He said the racers felt the O.J. track compared favorably with tracks in the U.S. On November 14, Ouje-Bougoumou won an award for "best track" in Quebec. This award is voted upon by the racers themselves and 80 per



continued on page 15

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Moto-cross phenom...

continued from page 13

cent voted for O.J.

Nathaniel Bosum's busy season saw him in 13 races in Quebec, five in the States, including the Amateurs Nationals (at Loretta Lynn's ranch), six Ontario competitions and five arena-cross competitions in Quebec. In each of the events Nathaniel competed in both the 50cc and 60cc bike classes.

Overall the hard work has paid off for this racer. Besides being the 27th best in the world, Nathaniel captured the Arena-Cross Championship for the 50cc and 60cc classes in arena-cross. The arena-cross competitions are tighter and more technical than the outside race tracks.

In the Quebec provincial moto-cross, Nathaniel finished first in the 50cc and came fourth in the 60cc class. Katejun Coonishish, also of Ouje-Bougoumou, finished third in the 60cc. "Both the boys, mine and Sidney's, they dominate in Quebec and parts of Ontario," said Bosum proudly.

Nathaniel ranks 6th in the Canadian Nationals (50cc PeeWee Class). The first five were American kids, so Nathaniel was actually the fastest Canadian in the race.

"In fact we had a great shot at being first," said Abel Bosum. "He was tied in first place with the other five kids. The kid who won the last race would be the champion. Nathaniel was leading and his bike broke midway." Bosum looks back at his son's loss as



just one of those things you can't predict or control. "Even so, my son was still very happy to finish 6th," he said. "Nathaniel had his strongest year. This summer was an exceptional year for him. I did not think he would go this far but when the season opened we were ready," said Bosum, adding that going to the States helped. "That's where we really met the com-

petition."

Bosum says that next year the 60cc will be Nathaniel's main bike and he will be trying out the 80cc. "It'll be a new experience for him."

Bosum thinks that Katejun and Nathaniel have opened the doors for other Crees to start racing. "Even though we have a lot of snow, we have kids who are very talented," said Bosum. "They could easily penetrate into these competitions."

Bosum says he and his family started racing as a way for the family to get together to do something. He recommends parents come out to see the sport to determine if they want their kids in it. Bosum said parents would be surprised at how well the kids are protected and how exciting the sport is. He says you start the kids off as early as possible. "They can develop some of the techniques at a young age and grow up with them," said Bosum. He said that moto-cross schools help. Chapais, Chibougamau and O.J. all have moto-cross tracks where you can practice and pick up tips.

Bosum remembers when they started Nathaniel off on a small 50cc bike. "We could control it," he said. "We tied a string to the back of the bike to control its speed. After a while, though, we had to turn him loose."

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**To all participants and spectators of the
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Another hockey tournament is coming up! Everyone will be making acquaintances or getting reacquainted with old friends that they have not seen since last year's tournament. We must all remember that this tournament like the previous tournaments was arranged in spirit of kinship. With this in mind, let us try to make this tournament a memorable event in a positive way for all including the members of the host town.

**We would like to wish everyone a fun and safe
hockey tournament. Please don't drink and drive.
Good luck to all!**

**From the Chief and Council of
Whapmagoustui First Nation.**



**Congratulations to the
Grand Chief Doctor Matthew Coon Come
on receiving your honorary Doctor of
Laws Degree from Trent University.**

You are a positive role model for our native youth.

From the Cree Nation of Ouje Bougoumou.

Since I started in Chisasibi in September 1996, I have met many healers, doctors and nurses who taught me a lot of important lessons, but the most important one was about the healing power of caring, which my patients have taught me. In this atmosphere of changes, we need to keep pace individually and professionally. As a nurse, I enjoy helping people who want to be involved in managing their own health.

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From the Whapmagoostui First Nation

We wish to extend our heartfelt congratulations to the Grand Chief Matthew Coon Come upon his recent achievement; he was honored with an honorary doctorate of law from Trent University. Your achievement is an example of one's dedication and perseverance of how it can lead to such distinguished accomplishments. We are very proud of your achievement. May our Creator continue to watch over you and guide you.



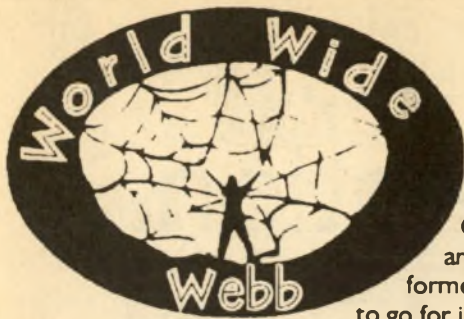
A Special Congratulatory Message to Our Grand Chief Matthew Coon Come,

The Cree Nation of Mistissini is proud of your outstanding accomplishments for being awarded the honorary Doctorate of Laws degree in recognition of your outstanding leadership in the advancement of the Cree Nation and other First Nations of Canada.

Your dedication and commitment is greatly appreciated by all First Nation Peoples and for this we commend you.

**Congratulations and we wish you
continued success in your future endeavors.**

From the Chief and Council of the Cree Nation of Mistissini



... As I was saying, you will have to have to protect yourself when you go online. One of the best ways to arm yourself is to be informed. Here is a good site to go for information on security

issues on the Net. <<http://diamond-back.com/icqhazards.html>>. Its main focus is the ICQ network but just as relevant for any Internet user. By the way if you are a regular surfer and have friends who are surfers also, go to <<http://www.icq.com/>>. ICQ is a program which lets you know when your buddies are online. It lets you chat with them, send and receive files. It keeps you in touch.

I surfed around the other day looking for James Bay Cree sites and came across a few. A good site to stop at if you're politically inclined would be at the Grand Council's, <<http://www.gcc.ca/>>. Even if you aren't politically inclined this is a good site to visit both for Crees and non-Crees. There is a wonderful collection of links to documents outlining the Cree positions on various issues affecting Cree people. It even has the James Bay Agreement online, which by the way should be a course taught in our schools. All the chapters and sections are there including the complimentary agreements signed since. Included also in the Grand Council site are the activities in the global arena with submissions made by the Council to the United Nations. All the communities and entities are also represented in one way or another. As I've said, a good sight for everybody, Cree or not.

Other Cree sites of interest include Mississini's site, <<http://www.nation.mississini.qc.ca/>>, which has links to their geography, culture and history, nature, tourism and the council. The Chisasibi Mandow Agency's site, <<http://www.mandow.ca/>>, provides information on services it provides such as tours, hunting and fishing. By the way that is our daughter on the main page of the Mandow site (proud parent). Of course Ouje-Bougoumou's site, <<http://www.ouje.ca/>>, is a must stop on the James Bay Cree information trail. The site offers information on the history of the Ouje-Bougoumou Crees, Freddie Bosum's essay on his community is very informative and full of insight. The youth section showcases projects undertaken by the youth of Ojaj. The youth there are very much wired to the Net. There is a computer room at the youth center which is open to all. However, I do miss their virtual tour of the community and the tiipii.

Those not able to tune in to the airwaves in Cree country can catch programming on the Net provided by CBC North out of Montreal, <<http://www.cbcnorth.cbc.ca/audio.htm>>. It would be advisable to download Real Player before you can enjoy the show. The download for the player is available on the CBC North radio page. Once you have it up and running you can listen in on the Crees anywhere on the planet. There will be interruptions, but it's worth putting up with if you miss staying in touch with home. Programs daily during the week from 7:10 a.m. to 9 a.m. and again 12:10 p.m. to 1 p.m. (all times Eastern). Mamuitaa also has a page (just go to the tv section).

Also more Crees are getting ICQ. The Cree online community is starting to take shape. Go to <www.icq.com> if you're interested... Excuse me, I have to get back to Surfin', Chatten', ICQ'ing and taking in the sights and sounds of the place we call the World Wide Web. The revolution is online.

Till I Seek You (icq, get it?). Have a safe journey. Caio.

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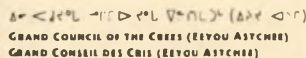
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A black and white photograph of the Hoover Dam, showing the massive concrete structure spanning a deep canyon. The foreground features steep, rocky cliffs and a body of water at the base of the dam.

While acknowledging the Prime Minister of Canada's support for human rights, we nonetheless note with alarm the situation of Indigenous peoples, including many within Canada. We call on the governments of Chile, Paraguay and Canada, and on the international community to recognize the absolute right of these peoples to defend their territory, autonomy, and self-determination.

Grand Chief Mathew CoonCome, Grand Council of the Crees of Eeyou Istchee
Mr. Alberto Santa Cruz and Mr. Buruno Barras of Paraguay
Mr. Aldisson Anquita and Mr. Antolin Curriao of Chile



CREE REGIONAL AUTHORITY

Akootinisho

BY XAVIER KATAQUAPT

The Cree language is amazing. Sometimes just one word can mean so much. Take for instance Akootinisho. This refers to a person or persons who have gone out to their traditional family hunting and trapping grounds before freeze up. It also means that they stay until they can come back over the frozen water by snow machine. See what I mean? Just one word describes all that.

This time of year people still leave the community with great joy to welcome the coming of winter on their traditional lands. When most people would think that with the coming cold winds, snow and ice the best idea would be to hibernate, some of my people in Attawapiskat can hardly wait to get back out on the land.

You might find one or two houses boarded up this time of year in the coastal communities along the great James Bay and chances are that, the entire family is Akootinisho. They will be prepared well for this special trip. At this time of year if you don't know how to survive in my part of the world any trip can be dangerous. As part of the preparation for this family adventure often a snowmobile will be left over from the previous winter at the hunting camp or perhaps brought over during the summer by boat. This guarantees an easier trip back to the community once the lakes and rivers are frozen.

This voyage is very costly as it is necessary to bring enough supplies to last from the beginning of November to the point of freeze-up which usually happens around Christmas. Those who still embark on this journey do so by freighter canoe, powered

by gas-guzzling outboard motors. These traditional hunting and trapping camps are spread all along the coast, along the rivers and out in the bay on Akamiski Island. It can take hours of hard going through the cold and freezing rain on rough water to reach the campsite.

Once the family has arrived, a return to life the way it was hundreds of years ago becomes reality. The boat is put up for the winter, the motor stored and walking is the only way to get around until there is enough snow for snowmobiles. Here is where the young ones in the family have the opportunity to learn about the traditional Cree life. This is a chance to learn and develop skills that will mean survival in harsh conditions on the land.

Now is the time for being out on the land, setting the traps, gathering wood and hunting to ensure survival. The family is close now and nurturing around the fires at night and snuggled up together in warm sleeping bags.

There is a certain freedom being out on the land this time of year because once the freeze up starts, as the ice begins to build, boats are useless as are snowmobiles. No one can leave the community by land or water for a couple of months. Happily, those who have chosen to Akootinisho are enjoying life that harkens back to another time.

The snow is softly and slowly falling in big flakes. The water edge has become icy and a puffy pure white blanket covers everything. A wisp of smoke drifts up from the stove pipe by the camp and the odor of fresh rabbit stew and dumplings is in the air. The sun is fading behind a cool and gray northern sky. They are Akootinisho.



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HOCKEY PLAYER PROFILES

Name: **DEREK VINCENT NEACAPPO**

Date of birth: March 14, 1989

Height: 4'8"

Weight: 86 lbs.

Position: Centre

Education, school year 1998/99: Grade 4

Favourite music: In Sync

Favourite animal: Tiger

Favourite wild food: Moose meat

Sports idol: Joe Sakic

Favourite hockey club: Colorado Avalanche

Where did you play hockey in 1997/

98: Chisasibi (Lil Hunters) Novice

Favourite sport besides hockey: Basketball

Best hockey memory: Winning Amos tournament with Lil Hunters

What do you want to be in life: To work at the arena and drive a Zamboni

Tell us about one of your dreams: To play baseball in major leagues



Name: **GEORGE THOMAS HUBERT NEACAPPO**

Date of birth: August 16, 1990

Height: 4'6"

Weight: 76 lbs.

Position: Right wing

Education, school year 1998/99: Grade 3

Favourite music: Hanson

Favourite animal: Lion

Favourite wild food: Goose meat

Sports idol: Mark McGwire (Big Mac)

Favourite hockey club: Buffalo Sabres

Where did you play hockey in 1997/

98: Chisasibi (Pre-Hunters) Pre-Novice

Favourite sport besides hockey: Baseball

Best hockey memory: Scoring a goal at Rouyn tournament

What do you want to be in life: Play baseball in major leagues

Tell us about one of your dreams: Play hockey in NHL



continued on page 25

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Make a good meal!



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Good for four

10 pieces of chicken (dark meat)

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Good for many

15 pieces of chicken

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continued from page 23

Name: **BERTIE SEALHUNTER**

Date of birth: June 29, 1988

Height: 134 cm

Weight: 43.6 kg

Position: Centre

Education, school year 1998/98: Grade 5 (French)

Favourite music: NSYNC, Back Street Boys

Favourite animal: Puppies

Favourite wild food: Goose

Sports idol: Charley Wash

Favourite hockey club: Montreal Canadiens

Where did you play hockey in '97/98: Chis. Lil Hunters (Novice)

Favourite sport besides hockey: Basketball

Best hockey memory: When I scored a hat trick on my first novice tournament, I was only 7 years old and I also won a game star that game with the Chisasibi Lil Hunters.

What do you want to be in life: To be a hockey player

Tell us about one of your dreams: I'm only 10 years old and I'm playing in the Federated Tournaments, and I can't wait to play with Les Forestiers d'Amos like Charley Wash, and if I get drafted in the NHL I would prefer to play with the Montreal Canadiens because when I started to play hockey they were my favourite team and will always be. When I first watched them play in the Centre Molson I was very excited.



Name: **STEVE KANATEWAT-MOAR**

Date of birth: February 28, 1989

Height: 4'8"

Weight: 46 kg

Position: Centre and wing

Education, school year 1998/99: Grade 4

Favourite music: Bon Jovi

Favourite animal: Squirrel

Favourite wild food: Moose, fish, goose (almost every wild food)

Sports idol: Mike Peca

Favourite hockey club: Buffalo Sabres

Where did you play hockey in 1997/98: Lil Hunters (Novice)

Favourite sport besides hockey: Softball, soccer, basketball

Best hockey memory: My first goal when we played in Barraute - Jan. '98 - and getting that \$20 from my uncle John.

What do you want to be in life: Policeman

Tell us about one of your dreams: To be able to play in the NHL some day and hopefully to play with Jonathan Cheechoo.



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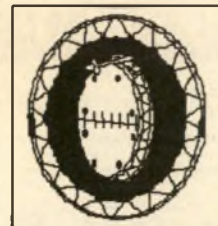
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continued from page 6

isn't healthy for a person with a very serious and critical health problem.

One last thing, we wish to thank all the people who remembered us in their prayers. God bless you all!

If there is anyone out there who has suggestion, comments on how to proceed about fund-raising or making this plea a reality, please don't hesitate to write to me:

Daisy Longchap Metabie c/o Robert Tomatuk, 550 8th Avenue, Val d'Or, Quebec, J9P 6K1, Tel.: (819) 825-9933, Fax: (819) 825-6734

Signed by two desperate mothers/
grandmothers

Daisy L. Metabie

Herbicides as safe as coffee

Letter to The Nation:

Subject: Reactions to the article by Alex Roslin published in The Nation, Volume 5, No. 23, October 9, 1998, "Hydro-Quebec says controversial herbicide is safe."

The following is Hydro-Quebec's reaction to the above article:

General Comments

-All herbicides used by Hydro-Quebec have toxicities that are similar to or less than those of such products as table salts, caffeine and aspirin. However, with every chemical product, measures for using these products correctly, safely and wisely are followed, and the laws, regulations and standards in force are respected.

-Hydro-Quebec uses only products certified by the Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) of Health Canada.

-Workers assigned to tasks that involve handling or using herbicides have certificates of competence, and the companies that apply these products have permits to apply them from the Quebec Department of the Environment and Wildlife (MEF).

-Hydro-Quebec has the authorizations required under the Environment Quality Act. In order to obtain the required authorizations from MEF, environmental studies are conducted and submitted to the department for each site where work with herbicides is done. Hydro-Quebec has also conducted research projects for several years to document the environmental fate and effects

of herbicides.

Agent Orange

-Hydro-Quebec has never used the product Agent Orange, the herbicide applied during the Vietnam War. Orange Agent contains a mixture of 2,4-D and 2,4,5-T, and its toxic component is not 2,4-D but the dioxins associated with 2,4,5-T. The use of Orange Agent has been prohibited since 1979.

Quantities of 2,4-D used

-2,4-D is a widely used herbicide. It ranks third in use in Canada and the United States. It is found in many products, not only for commercial, farm and industrial use, but also in products for home use like Killex, which can be bought in any hardware store or garden centre. In 1997, Hydro-Quebec used 51,546 L of Tordon 101 in its energy transmission rights-of-way. Tordon 101 contains 2,4-D. This volume of Tordon 101 was sprayed over a total area of about 4,600 hectares. The amount of 2,4-D consumed represents less than 0.6 per cent

continued on page 27

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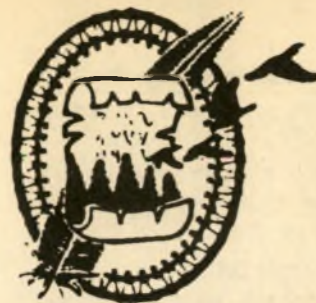
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on the most recent of his many achievements,
the receipt of an honorary Doctor of Laws
Degree from Trent University.

We would also like to take this opportunity to
wish all participants in the Val d'Or hockey
tournament the best of luck.



The Council of Commissioners
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all participants a safe,
happy, and successful
time at this year's
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Good luck and have a terrific tournament!!!

CHIEF AND COUNCIL OF NEMASKA FIRST NATION

continued from page 27

of the total quantities of herbicide sold in Quebec in 1996. Farming is the largest consumer of herbicides in Quebec, accounting for more than 73 per cent of sales.

Toxicity of 2,4-D

-2,4-D is the most studied herbicide in the world. The data presented in Mr. Roslin's article are out of date and have long since been revised. It is false to claim that 2,4-D "can cause cancer, genetic damage and problems in reproduction." There is an Industry Task Force on 2,4-D with Canadian and American members whose purpose is to assess the safety associated with the use of 2,4-D. This task force has concluded that 2,4-D has been studied intensively and been the subject of review committees (or critical evaluations) by experts in the United States, Canada and Europe on nine occasions from 1987 to 1997. These nine evaluations concluded that available studies do not establish a causal link between 2,4-D and cancer.

State-of-the-art studies demonstrate

that:

-2,4-D is of limited toxicity. In fact, 2,4-D is less toxic than caffeine and only slightly more toxic than aspirin;

-In concentrations found in the environment, 2,4-D presents no threat to wildlife;

-2,4-D does not cause birth defects;

-at very high doses, the chronic effects of 2,4-D are limited;

-it is unlikely that 2,4-D causes cancer. Under the EPA classification of carcinogenicity, 2,4-D belongs to group D (inadequate evidence of carcinogenicity).

-2,4-D has low potential for causing neurotoxic problems from short- and long-term exposures. It does not cause genetic damage and thus is not mutagenic.

Aerial spraying energy transmission rights-of-way

-Aerial spraying is carried out only in the Manicouagan region for the maintenance of energy transmission rights-of-way. It is false to claim that spray can drift up to 80 metres. Hydro-Quebec's aerial application technique cannot be compared with

techniques used in agriculture and forestry. Hydro-Quebec's technique involves the production of large droplets which are not prone to "off-target deposit." At Hydro-Quebec, the maximum "off-target deposit" observed has been 20 metres.

Toxicity of Roundup

-Alex Roslin's information is also biased with regard to Roundup. Recognized international organizations consider that Roundup demonstrates neither carcinogenicity (World Health Organization, 1994), nor genotoxicity (EPA). Like 2,4-D, it is a group D product. Moreover, Roundup presents virtually no acute or chronic toxicity in mammals (USDA, 1994). Alex Roslin's paragraph discussing genetic and carcinogenic damage is entirely false. Here, too, Roslin's arguments are dated and his sources questionable.

-Like 2,4-D, Roundup is found not only in products for commercial, farm and industrial use, but also in products for home use such as ready-to-use Roundup.

continued on page 31



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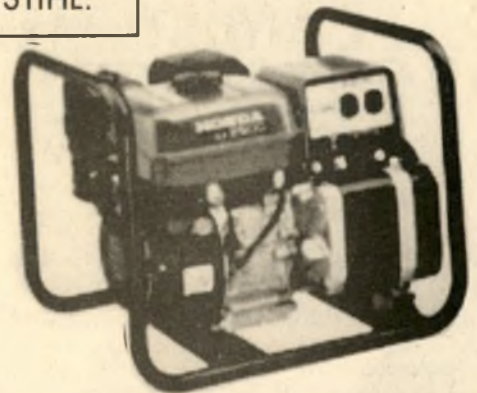
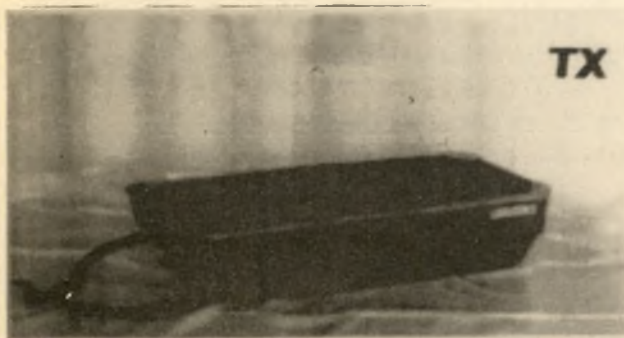
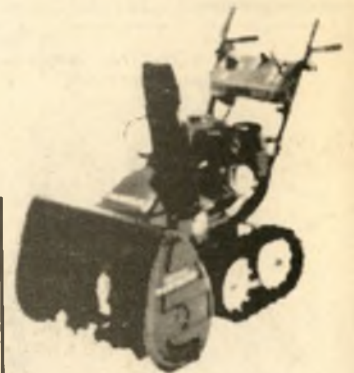
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Quantities of Roundup used at La Grande in 1997 and 1998

-The 167 L and 230 L of Roundup used in 1997 and 1998 respectively at La Grande were used to treat vegetation on dikes and dams. On average, 7 L of Roundup were used per hectare, which corresponds to levels lower than the maximum recommended by the manufacturer.

-Protection measures are used on dikes and dams to protect sensitive areas (in particular, small streams).

-It is absolutely false to state that the volumes of Roundup used in 1997 and 1998 are sufficient to kill 1,280 people. It is impossible to reach such a conclusion. In toxicology, the variable that matters is the dose to which individuals are exposed. For example, table salt is almost twice as toxic as Roundup and yet we do not consider table salt to be toxic. Nonetheless, in high doses salt can become toxic. The same is true of Roundup: in the doses used, Roundup is not toxic, and the use of 167 and 230 L over the La Grande territory is in

no way sufficient to kill 1,280 people. Such logic constitutes a kind of disinformation that creates an entirely unjustified climate of fear.

We hope this information will be of use to you. We remind you that we are always available to help you in your work.

Anne-Marie Prud'homme
Conseillère, Ecotoxicologie, Lignes,
Câbles et Environnement, Direction Ex-
perts et Support technique de transport,
TransÉnergie
Sylvie Tremblay
Attachée de presse, Équipe Médias,
Communication d'entreprise, Hydro-Québec

Ed. Note: Hydro-Quebec claims its herbicides are no more toxic than salt, caffeine or aspirin.

Has anyone ever tried to commit suicide by eating salt or drinking coffee? In Japan, drinking the herbicide "Roundup," which is used by Hydro in James Bay, is a common way of committing suicide

In a 1988 article published in Lancet, a

prestigious British medical journal, Japanese physicians studied 56 cases of Roundup poisoning. Most of the cases were suicides or attempted suicides. The average amount ingested in the fatal cases was about 3/4 of a cup.

It was, incidentally, that figure that was used to calculate how many people could be killed by the volume of Roundup sprayed by Hydro-Quebec in James Bay: 1,280 people.

One other question is whether or not these chemicals cause cancer and other illness to humans and animals. There is an important difference between knowing with certainty that a chemical doesn't cause cancer, and saying, as Hydro-Quebec does, "it is unlikely that 2,4-D causes cancer."

Several studies in Sweden and the U.S. have shown a link between 2,4-D exposure and cancer, according to Extoxnet, a U.S. government-funded research project. Other studies have different results, but the findings are mixed at best. Another problem is that most studies of herbicide safety are done by the companies that made the chemicals, not independent scientists.



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--------------------	------	-------------------------------

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5. You can get licence and registration **application forms** at the post office or by calling, toll-free, **1-800-731-4000**.
6. Some parts of the *Firearms Act* and licensing regulations have been adapted for **Aboriginal** firearms users who take part in the traditional hunting practices of their community.

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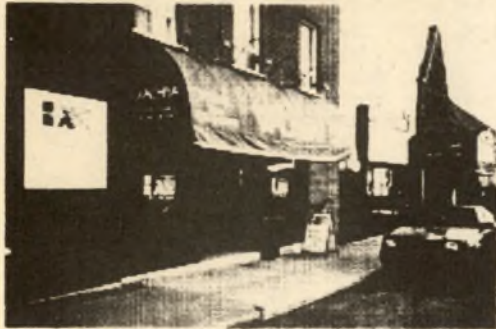
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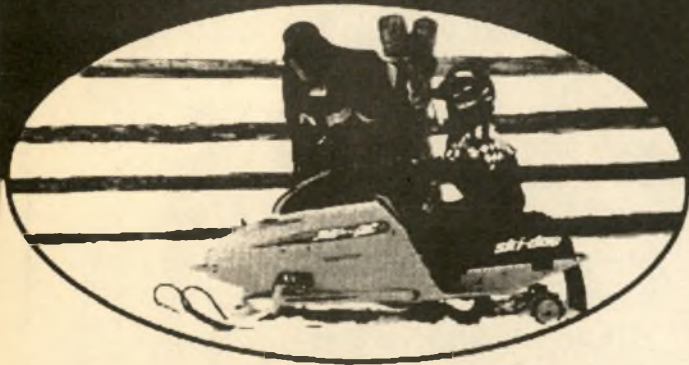
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Congratulations to Ruby and Brian A. in Whapmagoostui on the birth of their second son on November 13, 98. Ruby, I heard you were sick. I hope you're alright now, if not get better soon. and take care of your self and Brian, Neebin, and your two sons. your friend, Mary Niquanicappo in Montreal.

101-BIRTHDAYS

We would like to wish Stella Mast Bearskin and her husband Keith Bearskin Happy Belated Birthday's on November 05, 1998. From friends and relatives in WHAPMAGOOSTUI. We didn't forget you. It just took us this long. Better LATE than NEVER. (Heh-ha-ha-heh) We miss you and your kids. See you soon!!

happy first birthday to a sweet adorable and most of all beautiful girl, Serenitee on November 24, 1998. Since the day you were born, you have brought me so much joy, happiness and filled my life with love. happy first birthday and many more to come. With hugs and kisses, mom Lee Ann. xoxo..(em)

Happy 17th birthday to my friend Carla Edwards on December 24. Enjoy your day. take care of yourself. from friend Melanie Gunner.

birthday greetings to Hattie Gunner on December 28. Happy 17th birthday. we love you. From Melanie, Marvin, Delphis, Clayton and Rebecca Gunner.

A belated birthday wish to Janine harmony Carlene Angel diamond Erless on November 5, 1998. From the moment you came into our lives as fragile and perfect as a flower blooming for the first time we felt such joy and hope in our hearts. Ever since then you have brightened our days in countless ways. So on your birthday we want to remind you how special you are to us. and how much we will always love you. happy 1st birthday. Love always, mommy and daddy June and Howard.



birthday greetings to two special people, my great grandma Mary Tanoush on November 10 and my great grandma Annie Neeposh on November 26. Happy

birthday and hope you have a wonderful Christmas. Love always, Serenitee. xox.. PS Don't forget to save me a big piece of birthday cake.

happy birthday to our son Zachary Tristan Rodney Stephen. He is celebrating his first birthday on December 14., 1998. You are very special to us. we waited so long for you but you were worth the wait. Hope you have a great day. It seem like only yesterday you were born but now you are all over the place. We love you so much, our Christmas miracle, you were the best present we got. Love always, mommy and daddy (Waskaganish) Hugs and kisses little one.

Happy birthday to our nephew Zachery Stephen whose 1st birthday is on December 4, 1998. We love you and hope your day is as special as you are to us. may al your wishes come true when you make your first wish when you blow out you candle. Anytime you need us we'll be there for you. Love and kisses, your uncles Kurtis and Randall.

Happy 1st birthday to our grandson Zachery Stephen who is celebrating his special day on December 4, 1998. You are very special to us and we love you very much. Hope your day is as wonderful as you are. may all your wishes come true. Hope you get a lot of gifts for your birthday and Christmas too! love, nanny and grandpa Black. xoxoxo
happy 1st birthday to our grandson Zachery Stephen who is celebrating his special day on December 4, 1998. You are very special to us and we love you very much. Hope your day is a wonderful as you are. may all your wishes come true. Hope you get a lot of gifts for your birthday and Christmas too! love, Nanny and Grandpa Black. xoxoxoxo

Happy first birthday to Trent Thomas Bobby Georgekish on December 134, 1998. Lots of hugs and kisses. With love, granny and grandpa and uncles and aunts in wemindji Quebec.

happy first birthday to Trent Thomas Bobby. have fun on your birthday. You could eat lots of cake. xoxoxoxoxo from Cherilyn and Betsy in wemindji.

Happy birthday to our little bro Zachery Stephen who is celebrating his birthday on December 4, 1998. I can't wait until you play hockey with me. I always wanted to have a brother and I was so happy when you safely arrived. I love you so much. Don't worry about blowing out your candle. I'll help you, same thing with your presents and anytime you need me. Love always, your big brother Brandon Stephen. happiness always little one.

103-ANNIVERSARIES

Happy anniversary to my aunt and

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POSTING # 050:

MILL MECHANICAL FOREMAN

Due to an internal promotion, the Troilus Project is presently searching for a MILL MECHANICAL FOREMAN. The Troilus project is a gold and copper open pit mine with a mill presenting being upgraded to 15,000 tpd. The mine site is located at 175 km north of Chibougamau by way of the "Route du Nord". The selected candidate will work on a 4-3 schedule (4 days of work, 3 days off) and will be lodged at the site's first quality camp.

Employment requirements:

- A three year college certificate in mechanical or related technology, or equivalent experience;
- Heavy-duty equipment or industrial mechanic trade certification is an asset.
- A minimum of ten (10) years of experience in mechanical maintenance in a mine, of which 3 to 5 years in supervision;
- Knowledge of industrial mechanics is essential;
- Working knowledge of French & English;
- Experience in cross-cultural environment is an asset;

Main duties:

- Supervises, co-ordinates and schedules the activities of mechanical tradesmen.
- Establishes methods to meet work schedules and co-ordinates work activities with the departments;
- Requisitions materials and supplies;
- Resolves work problems and recommends measures to improve productivity;
- Trains or arranges for training of workers;
- Recommends personal actions such as hirings and promotions;
- Supervises the application of prevention maintenance programs and assures records are kept up to date;
- Promotes and ensures regulations concerning health/safety and environment;
- May supervise, co-ordinate and schedule the activities or related apprentices, helpers and labourers.

Particularities and remuneration:

Inmet Mining Corporation offers a competitive salary. The position is addressed to men and women. Inmet Mining Corporation encourages and are committed to the hiring of Crees and thanks all applicants of their interest, but advises that only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Those interested are to send their Curriculum vitae, before **December 26, 1998 to:**

**Human Resources Manager
Project Troilus
P.O Box 8700
Chibougamau (Quebec)
G8P 3A9**

CLASSIFIEDS

uncle Mildred and Douglas Alissapi. Their 25th anniversary is on December 29, 1998. Thanks for everything you've done for me. I am grateful for you both being there for me when I needed you. You mean a lot to me. Take care and I love you both. love always Cindy.

300-PERSONALS

To Toronto Maple Leafs fans throughout the Cree Nation. We would like to establish a Leafs fan club. If you are interested in being a member please send a short letter stating why you think the Leafs are the greatest NHL team. Send to: Leafs Rule, P.O. Box 87, Waskaganish, Quebec., J0M 1R0

Coming Up!
Val d'Or Tournament

Essay Contest
(Deadline December 7 11:59:59 p.m).

Cree Opposition to Telebec Picks Up Steam

Rez Notes on a Shark Feed

*Our dear, loving , mother, Wife and grandmother
Suzanne*

As the leaves began to fall we took a walk to your grave we could hear the birds singing, we all had tears in our eyes because you were a dove who flew away and never came back.

*Just the day before you got really sick, we were praying to God for his guidance,
we laughed and cried*

*we hugged and kissed each other,
we will never forget your kiss, Mom
the next day you couldn't talk or see us,
because you were very sick.*

*Your pain was in silence,
you faced your pain with courage until the very end.*

*When we stood by your side,
your tears were telling us to go on with our lives
and never give up.*

*There will never be another who could take
your place.*

For all we have are memories and your picture in a flame

*We miss you sweet angel.
God has you in his keeping,
we have you in our hearts*

We love you and miss you so much mom!
Emily, Maryann, Laurie, Lisa, and your one and only son Anson and husband David Neeposh and all your loving grandchildren.



UNE ÉQUIPE D'ICI POUR DES GENS D'ICI



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'98 CLEARANCE SALE

A CLEARANCE OF OVER 40 UNITS TO LIQUIDATE

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98040	4X4 P-UP SONOMA	\$ 28,500.00	\$ 4,002.00	\$ 24,498.00
98104	4X4 P-UP SONOMA	\$ 30,935.00	\$ 4,437.00	\$ 26,498.00
98115	GMC SAFARI VAN 2WD	\$ 32,060.00	\$ 6,562.00	\$ 25,498.00
98137	VENTURE VAN	\$ 28,265.00	\$ 3,267.00	\$ 24,998.00
98146	VENTURE VAN	\$ 29,045.00	\$ 3,547.00	\$ 25,498.00
98237	VENTURE VAN	\$ 29,070.00	\$ 3,572.00	\$ 25,498.00
98243	VENTURE VAN	\$ 29,080.00	\$ 3,582.00	\$ 25,498.00
98244	VENTURE VAN	\$ 29,080.00	\$ 3,582.00	\$ 25,498.00

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Good luck to all the Participants at the tournament.



Les Galeries de Val d'Or
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Unit 25, Val D'Or
(819) 824-3246

3 locations to serve you better

Tournament Dec. 4-5-6

**Best of Luck
to all participants!**

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and save 10% handling charge



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WE WELCOME C.O.D. ORDERS!



Ville de Val-d'Or

Wachiya! Welcome! Bienvenue!

On behalf of all the citizens of Val-d'Or and myself, I wish a warm welcome to all the athletes, family members and supporters of the Cree Nation Tournament in our beautiful city from December 4-5-6, 1998.

Most of you will rediscover Val-d'Or an attractive city in Abitibi-Témiscamingue. Our town is the most important commercial and industrial center in the area.

We are honoured to greet your prestigious event. Rest assured that your community will always be welcomed in Val-d'Or.

Wachiya! Enjoy your stay!

Mayor Ronald Tétrault

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Mayor Ronald Tétrault

Happy
New Year

